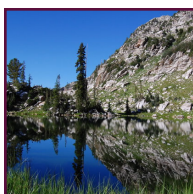
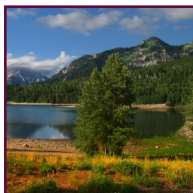


The Human Touch

Utah Department of
Human Services
120 N. 200 W.
Salt Lake City, 84103
801.538.4001
801.538.4016 Fax
hs.utah.gov



In This Issue:

- Working4Utah p.2
- Karen Hill p.2
- Night Out Against Crime p.3
- "DeSPeraDos" p.4
- Postcards p.5
- Training Tidbits p.9

And More!

Director's Message

I hope you are all having a great summer and enjoying the Utah outdoors!

We have been busy this month with the upcoming budget cycle. It is time once again to present the Governor with our top funding priorities. At DHS that will involve the caseload increases that are being experienced by the front line staff, together with some increased costs for food and fuel in programs. It will be a challenging year as the Governor's office has let us know that revenues are down. This means that new programs likely won't be funded. I will continue to advocate on behalf of DHS employees and compensation issues, as well as cost of living increases for providers. But we need to be realistic that new money may be hard to come by.

We are about a month into the 4 day work week pilot. Approximately 2/3 of DHS employees are on the new schedule, and 1/3 remain on the 5 day work week, due to the round-the-clock nature of their work. I have heard from many of you about the concerns you have, and I continue to work with the Governor's office to address child care, family care and transportation issues. I know that there are strong feelings on either side. Some employees love the new schedule and others have found it to be difficult. I appreciate the feedback and will watch the transition closely. Each division did a detailed plan as to how the key business functions will be performed, no matter what the work schedule, and we will be checking performance mea-



Lisa-Michele Church
Executive Director

asures as well.

The new DHS Administration building is underway. The architect and contractor are busy with final designs and ground will be broken soon out by the Tax Commission on North Temple. It is still estimated that we will be moving into the new building sometime in late 2009.

The Disabilities Division has a new director in Alan Ormsby, who will be taking the reins on August 25. He has been serving as our Director of Aging and Adult Services, and therefore, we will be interviewing for that position later in the month. Alan is excited to begin his new assignment and it is nice to see the Department growing leaders from within. I appreciate the work of Georgia Baddley and her team at DSPD as they kept the division functioning at a high level during the interim period.

Thanks for all your great work throughout DHS!

Top o' the Morning to You!

By Elizabeth Sollis, Executive Director's Office

Salt Lake City – On August 4, DHS administrative staff had the privilege of starting the Working 4 Utah Initiative with early morning greetings from Lisa-Michele Church, Mark Ward and Marie Christman. Armed with a cart packed with fruit, donuts and juice, the trio made their way through the administration building, stopping at each division, to ensure all staff had an opportunity to partake in the early morning snack. Other divisions showed support as well for their staff by cooking breakfast to celebrate the “crack o’dawn” throughout the various regions. Even Governor Huntsman joined the breakfast serving crowd by providing food to other state agencies impacted by Working 4 Utah.



Whether just observing the trio or partaking, staff appreciated for the kind gesture. Working 4 Utah.....everybody's working for the (3-day) weekend!

Executive Masters of Public Administration Recognizes Karen Hill

By Angelique Colemere, Executive Director's Office

Provo – More and more employees are tackling the challenge of working full-time and pursuing a higher education degree. DHS is no exception. Review Analyst Karen Hill is one of those ambitious employees who will graduate this August from the Executive Masters of Public Administration (EMPA) program sponsored by the Romney Institute of Public Management at BYU. Gary Cornia, Professor and Director of Romney Institute, sent a letter acknowledging the dedication and hard work Karen showed throughout her studies; which included fifteen required courses covering a wide variety of management and leadership topics. Topics included effective group work, HR practices, economics, quantitative methods, policy process and analysis, management accounting, public finance, budgeting, leadership, and oral and written communication. All have added to her skills and knowledge base.

While in school, Hill remained committed to her work. “Karen has been very diligent in performing both school and work obligations, while managing family responsibilities,” said Supervisor Brad McGarry. “She is

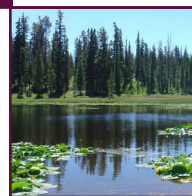


Congratulations to Karen Hill

always trying to find ways to improve the DCFS case process review and has designed a more effective review protocol of the Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment.”

Appreciation for the support of the Division was noted in Cornia's letter, “While it is Karen that was studying the textbooks, writing the papers, preparing the group presentations and attending the classes, we recognize that this could not have happened without the support of her employer.”

Congratulations to Karen and all other employees who have taken on this challenge!





Night Out Against Crime

By Angelique Colemere, Executive Director's Office

Salt Lake City- The 25th Annual National "Night Out Against Crime" was sponsored by multiple law enforcement agencies statewide on August 5. Salt Lake City Police Department (SLCPD) hosted six events throughout the city where food, games and entertainment were provided to the residents of the local neighborhoods. Chief Chris Burbank and officers from various divisions within SLCPD including SWAT, Gangs, Bikes, Motors, Bomb Squad, K-9, Patrol, COPS Meth Initiative, Parking Enforcement and Mobile Watch were present at each sight to answer questions, interact with the community and encourage neighborhood involvement in anti-crime programs. The biggest hit of the evening was "Buster the Crime Dog", who was always surrounded by a pool of children.

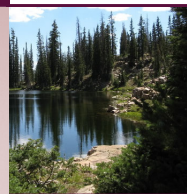


Department of Human Services (DHS) also participated in some of the information booths, educating the community about the various DHS programs. Liz Sollis, PIO, Angelique Colemere, Communications Liaison and Rick Berry, CPS worker represented the DHS divisions (APS, DSPD, DCFS) involved with SLCPD COPS Meth Initiative. The initiative has been a successful collaboration of community partners who address the on-going methamphetamine problem that impacts children, vulnerable adults and families in our State.

Community turnout varied at each location, however, the underlying goal of the evening was that crime awareness, drug prevention and neighborhood spirit would increase and the relationship between law enforcement and the public would be enhanced.

DHS Payroll Distribution

As of August 7, 2008 there are changes to the payroll distribution process due to Working 4 Utah. Each Division has a protocol based on the working schedule and may be different. Visit www.hsemployees.utah.gov for the updated payroll information.



National Immunization Awareness Month

By Utah Department of Health

August, National Immunization Awareness Month, is the perfect time to catch up on vaccinations. Parents are enrolling their children in school, students are entering college, and healthcare workers are preparing for the upcoming flu season. So take this time to learn more about immunizations and make sure you're up-to-date!

Immunizations are one of the most noteworthy health achievements of the 20th century. Vaccines have eliminated smallpox and wild poliovirus in the U.S., and considerably reduced the number of cases of measles and other diseases. But despite these efforts, thousands of people in the U.S. still die today from these and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

Immunizations are important for many reasons. First, they are one of the most effective ways to protect children and adults against many common infectious diseases. Vaccines help the body create antibodies, our body's defensive cells that fight off any foreign substance. Some of the

benefits of keeping individuals healthier through immunizations include:

- creates immunity to certain diseases
- lower associated social and financial costs for families
- less time lost from school and work
- reduced expense of medical bills

Recommended vaccinations begin soon after birth and continue throughout life, and it's important to get the right vaccines in the right doses at the right time. Getting immunized is a lifelong, life-protecting community effort regardless of age, sex, race, or ethnic background. Vaccines offer safe and effective protection from infectious diseases. By staying up-to-date on the recommended vaccines, you can protect yourself, your family and friends and your community from serious, life-threatening infections.

For more information and to make sure you're up-to-date visit, <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/>

"DeSPeraDos" Join the NAMI Walk

By Lynette Willie, Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Salt Lake City - NAMI Utah WALKS for the Mind of America will be held at Franklin Covey Field on Saturday, September 27. The 3-mile walk is an annual event promoting public awareness about mental illness in Utah with the intent of erasing stigma and fostering hope for recovery. The walk also provides an opportunity for community involvement and support for individuals impacted by mental illness.

Chuck Bruder, Division of Services for People with Disabilities, organized Team DeSPeraDos, comprised of DHS employees. "Mental illness touches everyone, including the lives of those with disabilities and those who love them," said Bruder, "We're helping NAMI, in its wonderful work of bringing mental illness out of the darkness and into the light, by spending a day in the sun with our friends and colleagues."

DHS staff are invited to join Team DeSPeraDo. Participation is free, however, donations are welcome as proceeds fund vital

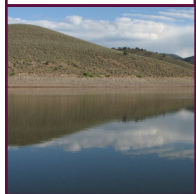


Front Row (L to R): Chuck Bruder, Clair Abee
Back Row (L to R): Randy Sargent, Betsy Baker,
Mel Castillo, Cathy Davis
Craig Walters - not pictured

community programs. To join, go to: www.nami.org/namiwalks08/slc/DSPDDeSPerados
 For additional information contact Chuck Bruder, cbruder@utah.gov

NAMI Utah's programs are provided free to the public and include support, education, research and advocacy with the goal of reducing the stigma of mental illness. To learn more, volunteer or make a donation, go to www.namiut.org

The Human Touch



Keena Gallop - DCFS Trainer

What is the best part of your job?

I have so many it's hard to say. We just had a great foster parent appreciation party. It was amazing to see a theater filled with foster families having a great time with their entire family.

Where is best place to eat in your city?

Red Lobster

What is your favorite book?

I just read "Three Little Words"

Where would you travel if you could go anywhere in the world?

A cruise anywhere!

P O S T C A R D S

Barbara Vargas - Adult Protective Service Intake

What is the best part of your job?

It is nice to know that what I do might make a difference for someone in the community. We don't hear it often, but on occasion someone (in the community) will say that APS is a great agency and they appreciate what we do. That certainly makes it all feel worth it.

What is your favorite baseball team?

I don't really have a favorite team. I just root for the teams my brothers are playing for, which up until recently was the Chicago Cubs and the Texas Rangers. It is now the Philadelphia Phillies and the Texas Rangers.

What is your favorite book?

I don't really have a favorite book. I love to read just about anything written by John Grisham.

Where would you travel if you could go anywhere in the world?

I am not much of a world traveler, never been out of the US, but if I could go anywhere I think I would like to go to France.



State Hospital Museum Open House

By Janina Chilton, Utah State Hospital

Provo – Utah State Hospital's Historical Museum will host an open house to celebrate the museum's grand opening on Tuesday, September 16 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. The museum contains photographs and artifacts that bring to life the hospital's history and the treatment of mental illness over the past 123 years.

Treatment for those impacted by mental illness has made great progress during the last several decades. Throughout the years, Utah's mental health treatment system has moved from one of total custodial care to



more community-based treatment. At times, progress was slow and treatment modalities considered to be the "latest and most effective" sometimes proved to be harmful and seemed inhumane when viewed through modern eyes.

The goal of the museum is to illustrate how much mental health treatment has evolved. Exhibited in two small rooms in the Superintendent's home (on the hospital campus), the museum offers a profound look at the past treatment of mental illness in Utah. Everyone is invited to visit and observe the history that has been preserved.

**Utah State Hospital Museum
Superintendent's Home (first building on the
North side of the Center Street entrance)
1300 East Center Street, Provo**

Cost: FREE

**Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 AM-12 PM
and 1 PM-5:30 PM**

**Arrangements can be made for alternative hours
if necessary. For further information please call
801-344-4635 or 801-344-4254.**

DSPD Director Announced

By Lisa-Michele Church, Executive Director

I am pleased to announce that Alan K. Ormsby has been named the new Director of the Division of Services for People with Disabilities. Alan is currently the Division of Aging and Adult Services Director and has been since 2005.

Alan is just what we need to maintain the progress we have been making on the critical funding issues surrounding disabilities in Utah. He has been an excellent advocate for aging issues at the Legislature and understands the unique public policy challenges around support for vulnerable adults, whether they are aging clients or people with disabilities.

"Alan will be greatly missed by DAAS" said Nan Mendenhall APS Regional Director, "He has done great things for our Division and it has been a pleasure working with him."

Alan has worked in the area of aging policy since graduating from law school in 2001. He has actively worked with county and non-profit partners to maximize available

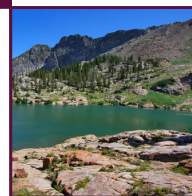


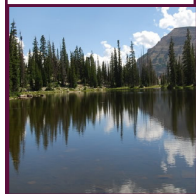
Alan Ormsby at Centenarian Celebration

services and is familiar with the Medicaid waiver programs. In addition, Alan has served as a member on the Board of Utah Developmental Disabilities Council, Senator Hatch's Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities, and several long-term care policy groups.

Alan is looking forward to learning what is needed for disabilities services, welcomes the new challenge and brings a wealth of analytical and advocacy skills to his new position.

Please join me in congratulating and supporting Alan in his new position.





Initiative on Wellness: Responding to the Epidemic of Death in People with Mental Illness

By Robert H. Snarr & Rick Hendy, Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Salt Lake City – According to recent research in the “Morbidity and Mortality in People with Serious Mental Illness” report, adults with serious mental illness die approximately 25 years earlier than the general population overall. Lead researcher on the study, Dr. Joe Parks, M.D., identified this as a gap that has widened since the early ‘90s when life spans of people with mental illness were cut by 10 to 15 years. “This is an alarming trend,” said Dr. Parks.

On August 18 Dr. Parks participated in a half-day conference for providers, sponsored by Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH), where he reviewed and discussed research, trends and strategies for integrated physical and mental health services. Other presenters included Community Mental Health Center Wellness Initiatives, Federally Qualified Health Center and Utah State Hospital. Over 200 individuals attended the conference representing a cross-section of consumers and mental health and medical providers.



DSAMH works closely with community mental health centers to ensure consumer's individual treatment plans include physical health education, weight monitoring, diabetes screening and tobacco use, prevention and screening. Wellness of consumers has been and continues to be a strong focus for DSAMH and is monitored yearly.

Visit www.nasmhpd.org to read “Morbidity and Mortality in People with Serious Mental Illness”.

DHS hosts an American Indian Policy Summit

By Lynette Willie, Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Mental health and substance abuse services available to American Indian/Alaskan Native children and adolescents living in Utah is one of the focus areas of the Utah Transformation of Child and Adolescent Network (UT CAN). Invitations were extended to tribal behavioral health systems/organizations to send representatives to the American Indian Workgroup (AIWG) where they were charged with developing and implementing an American Indian transformation plan.

AIWG recommended a tribal consultation policy, designed to ensure a collaborative effort to address mental health and substance abuse services, be created between the tribal governments of Utah, the Indian Walk-In Center, and Utah Department of Human Services. Lisa-Michele Church, DHS Executive Director, supported the recommendation and assigned a DHS Liaison. The tribes have also been invited to participate in a DHS Tribal and Indian Issues Committee,

which will provide ongoing input about human services issues as they relate to American Indian/Alaska Natives populations.

“American Indians are citizens of Utah,” says Chairman of the Confederate Tribes of Goshute Reservations, Rupert Steel. “We are equal in our responsibility to find solutions. Our (tribal) human services agencies have the same goals and objectives to help our communities.”

UT CAN's AIWG will host the “Sunrise to Sunset” American Indian Policy Summit on September 30, 2008 at the Davis Convention Center in Layton. The goal of the summit is to educate agencies of the new policy and gain the mutual understanding that we are equal partners in the solution-finding process to improve human services for American Indian people residing in Utah.

For more information about the Summit go to www.hstraining.utah.gov



University Health Care

Neurobehavior HOME Program

Presents

FALL SESSION BEHAVIOR EDUCATION SERIES FOR CARE GIVERS

SAVE THE DATES!!!!

Date & Topic

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| September 30th | - Crisis Management
Patricia Galbraith LCSW Neurobehavior HOME |
| October 7 th | - ABC's of Behavior
Marion Hunt M.Ed. Bx Specialist TKJ |
| October 14 th | - Least Restrictive Behavior Interventions
Breanne Berg Bx. Specialist NES &
Taryn Nicksic-Springer Bx Specialist Neurobehavior HOME |
| October 21 st | - Most Restrictive Behavior Interventions
Natalie Innes Bx Specialist DSPD &
Taryn Nicksic-Springer Bx Specialist Neurobehavior HOME |
| October 28 th | - Reinforcement!! (New this series) ☺
TBA |

Time

12-1:30pm

Where

Neurobehavior HOME Program
(Located in Research Park @ the University of Utah)
650 Komas Drive Suite 200
SLC, UT 84108

Who Should Attend

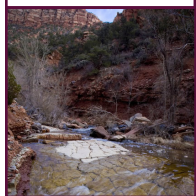
Open to the public to caregivers of people with disabilities. Parents, direct care staff, teachers, classroom assistants, support coordinators and those interested in learning more about behavior are welcome to attend.

For more information please contact

Taryn Nicksic-Springer

585-9778 or Taryn.Nicksic-Springer@hsc.utah.ed





The Human Touch

NOJOS 2008 Advanced Academy Conference

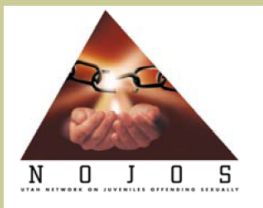
When: Thurs Sept 4th,
1:00 pm – 9 pm
Friday Sept 5th,
9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Where: Moab Utah, at
the Moab Valley Inn

Cost: \$110

Registration: Forms
available at
www.nojos.org

Hotel Registration:
For reservations at the
Moab Valley Inn, call
(435) 259-4419



NOJOS

c/o Rick Rawlins
3703 West 6200 South
Kearns UT 84118
Phone: 801-955-9686
Fax: 801-965-8789
E-mail: rickr@vmh.com

Keynote speaker:

Phil Rich

(back by popular demand)

Phil Rich, EdD, MSW, LICSW is the Clinical Director of Stetson School, a residential treatment program for juvenile sexual offenders and sexually reactive children in Barre, Massachusetts. He has practiced as a clinical social worker for over 25 years, has served as the program director of five residential and day treatment programs, and has worked extensively with troubled adolescents and adults in residential, inpatient, day treatment, and outpatient settings. He has 12 published books, including *Understanding Juvenile Sexual Offenders: Assessment, Treatment, and Rehabilitation*.

Conference Highlights

- Thursday afternoon start (to allow travel to Moab on Thursday morning)
- Thursday evening session in a beautiful outdoor red rock setting. Dinner provided.
- Focus on “how do I evaluate if I have a successful adolescent sex offender treatment program”, with direction from a nationally recognized expert, Phil Rich.

To register, please email Rick Rawlins at
rickr@vmh.com and send payment by mail
to 3703 W. 6200 S. Kearns UT 84118

Training Tidbits

Proper training is essential to best serving our consumers. Below are just a few of the upcoming training opportunities supported by the department:

University of Utah-Disability Studies-Interdisciplinary Core Course and Graduate Certificate

August 27, 2008

University of Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah

For more information contact Cathy Chambless @ 585-0371, cathy.chambless@cpga.utah.edu or <http://www.hum.utah.edu/idstudies/index.php?pageId=1919>

17th Annual Domestic Violence Council Conference

September 16-19, 2008

Salt Palace Convention Center

Salt Lake City, Utah

For more information or to register, go to <http://www.udvc.org>

American Indian Wellness Conference

"Sunrise to Sunset: Health Across the Lifespan"

September 30, 2008

Davis Convention Center

Layton, Utah

For more information or to register, contact Ming Wang, 801-538-4276, mwang@utah.gov

HELP WANTED

Are you aware of a training or conference that we don't have listed in the Human Touch or online?

If so, please notify Angelique Colemere, ACOLEMER@utah.gov 801-538-4275.

You may also submit events online on the department training calendars, www.hstraining.utah.gov.

A man is but the product of his thoughts. What he thinks, he becomes.
Gandhi

Utah State Developmental Center Fall Conference

October 1, 2008

Utah State Developmental Center

American Fork, Utah

For additional information contact Dan Chase, 801-763-4261, dchase@utah.gov

Utah Fall Substance Abuse Conference

October 1-3, 2008

Davis Conference Center

Layton, Utah

For more information or to register, go to <http://www.utahsamh.com/>

National Drug Endangered Children Conference

October 6-8, 2008

Radisson Hotel

Salt Lake City, Utah

For more information or to register, visit the website:

<http://nationaldec.org/Conference/conference.htm#2007Conf>

Brain Injury Association of Utah 19th Annual Family and Professionals Conference

October 9-10, 2008

Davis Conference Center

Layton, Utah

For more information go to www.biau.org

Critical Issues Facing Children & Adolescents

November 13-14, 2008

Hilton – Salt Lake City Center

Salt Lake City, Utah

For more information call 801-501-9446.

The Human Touch

Editor in Chief:

Lisa-Michele Church

Production Editors:

Angelique Colemere

Jared Sweeten

Elizabeth Sollis

Rich Rayl

The Human Touch is published monthly